

WEST DAVIS CORRIDOR

ENVIRONMENTAL FACT SHEET

The Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), is preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to study a potential transportation corridor in western Davis and Weber counties. The West Davis Corridor Study is evaluating transportation needs through the year 2040, from the Great Salt Lake on the west to I-15 on the east, and from Parrish Lane in Centerville on the south to 12th Street in Marriott-Slaterville on the north.

In an effort to identify a solution that will benefit these areas, the West Davis Corridor Study is evaluating which alternatives best meet the transportation needs while balancing community and environmental impacts. UDOT is coordinating with local cities, counties, state and federal regulatory agencies and other interested individuals and organizations to ensure that all issues and potential concerns are identified and considered before a final decision is made.

The West Davis Corridor Study, which began in January 2010, will take three to five years to complete. This amount of time is necessary to complete the steps required by the *National Environmental Policy Act* (NEPA). NEPA requires agencies to incorporate human, community, cultural, economic and environmental considerations in planning and decision-making. An EIS is the official document detailing the decision-making process and potential impacts of proposed actions.

The following outlines the main federal and state laws and regulations that UDOT must adhere to before construction of a proposed project:

Agricultural Protection Areas

Agricultural protection areas, or APAs, are protected by state law. Utah law requires UDOT to demonstrate that “there is no reasonable and prudent alternative to the use of the land within the agriculture protection area or industrial protection area” for the proposed project.

For more information, visit:

Utah Code, Title 17, Chapter 41, Agriculture and Industrial Protection Areas
(http://le.utah.gov/-code/TITLE17/17_41.htm)

Air Quality

Air quality standards are set and regulated by the federal *Clean Air Act*. Areas that do not meet air quality standards, including the Wasatch Front, must develop plans and take actions to improve their air quality. Any projects that may cause emissions must conform with the air quality plans.

For more information, visit:

- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (www.epa.gov)
- Utah Department of Environmental Quality (www.deq.utah.gov)
- Utah Division of Air Quality (www.airquality.utah.gov)

Community, Historic & Wildlife Resources

Publicly owned parks, recreational areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges and public or private historical and archaeological sites are protected by federal law. If a project impacts these types of sites, the *Department of Transportation Act (1966)—Section 4(f)* requires UDOT and FHWA to evaluate and consider ways of avoiding or minimizing those impacts. Additionally, the *National Historic Preservation Act (1966)—Section 106* requires UDOT and FHWA to evaluate and minimize or mitigate impacts to public or private historical and archaeological sites.

For more information, visit:

- Federal Highway Administration (www.environment.fhwa.dot.gov/4f)
- U.S. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (www.achp.gov)
- National Historic Preservation Program (www.achp.gov/nhpp)
- Utah State History (<http://history.utah.gov>)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (www.fws.gov)
- Utah Division of Wildlife Resources (<http://wildlife.utah.gov/dwr>)

Wetlands & Waters of the U.S.

Most wetlands and waters (e.g., lakes, rivers, streams) are protected by federal law. Wetlands are identified by three criteria: (1) soil, (2) water and (3) vegetation. If a project impacts wetlands or waters, the *Clean Water Act* requires UDOT and FHWA to consider ways of avoiding or minimizing impacts.

For more information, visit:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (www.usace.army.mil)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (<http://water.epa.gov/type/wetlands>)



WEST DAVIS
C O R R I D O R

HOW CAN I PROVIDE FEEDBACK?

Your continued participation is critical to the success of the study. To provide comments or other feedback regarding the study, call **877.298.1991**, e-mail **westdavis@utah.gov**, or use the online comment form at **udot.utah.gov/westdavis**.

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